

BEFORE THE
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

SUSAN MARIE COYLE
336 E. Alluvial #6
Fresno, CA 93720

Registered Nurse License No. 288929
Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 27227

Respondent

Case No. 2006-277

OAH No. N2006120151

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as it's Decision in the above entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on **February 11, 2008**.

IT IS SO ORDERED January 11, 2008.



President
Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

1 EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General
of the State of California
2 ARTHUR D. TAGGART
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 GEOFFREY S. ALLEN, State Bar No. 193338
Deputy Attorney General
4 1300 I Street, Suite 125
P.O. Box 944255
5 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
Telephone: (916) 322-5318
6 Facsimile: (916) 324-5567
E-mail: Geoffrey.Allen@doj.ca.gov
7

8 Attorneys for Complainant

9 **BEFORE THE**
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2006-277

12 **SUSAN MARIE COYLE**
13 100 N. Fowler, Apt. 181
14 Clovis, CA 93611

OAH No. N2006120151

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

15 Registered Nurse License No. 288929
Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 27227

16
17 Respondent.

18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the
19 above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of
22 the Board of Registered Nursing (Board). Complainant brought this action solely in her official
23 capacity and is represented in this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State
24 of California, by Geoffrey S. Allen, Deputy Attorney General.

25 2. Respondent Susan Marie Coyle (Respondent) is represented in this
26 proceeding by attorney Elaine Yama, whose address is Bennett and Sharpe, 2444 Main Street,
27 Suite 110, Fresno, CA 93721.

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3. On or about March 31, 1978, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number 288929 (License) to Respondent. The registered nurse license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2009, unless renewed.

4. On or about October 10, 1978, the Board issued Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 27227 (Certificate) to Respondent. The public health nurse certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2009, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

5. Accusation No. 2006-277 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 18, 2006. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2006-277 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2006-277. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

1 CULPABILITY

2 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in
3 Accusation No. 2006-277, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon
4 Respondent's License and Certificate.

5 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and
6 uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could
7 establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up
8 her right to contest those charges.

9 11. Respondent agrees that her Registered Nurse License is subject to
10 discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the
11 Disciplinary Order below.

12 CONTINGENCY

13 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated
14 Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same
15 force and effect as the originals.

16 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties
17 agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the
18 following Disciplinary Order:

19 DISCIPLINARY ORDER

20 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License Number 288929 and
21 Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 27227 issued to Respondent are revoked. However, the
22 revocations are stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the
23 following terms and conditions.

24 **Severability Clause.** Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate
25 and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared
26 unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other
27 applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid
28 and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1 1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws.
2 A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to
3 the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of
4 compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and
5 fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted
6 as part of the licensure application process.

7 **Criminal Court Orders:** If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including
8 probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation
9 conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

10 2. **Comply with the Board's Probation Program.** Respondent shall fully
11 comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate
12 with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's
13 compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing
14 within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active,
15 current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

16 Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully
17 restored.

18 3. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall
19 appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated
20 representatives.

21 4. **Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State.** Periods of
22 residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a
23 reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she
24 resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15
25 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-
26 establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

27 Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been
28 licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further

1 provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status
2 during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a
3 new nursing license during the term of probation.

4 5. **Submit Written Reports.** Respondent, during the period of probation,
5 shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions
6 under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain
7 statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation
8 Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be
9 required by the Board or its representatives.

10 Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency
11 in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

12 6. **Function as a Registered Nurse.** Respondent, during the period of
13 probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24
14 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

15 For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered
16 nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or
17 work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

18 The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice
19 nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the
20 Board.

21 If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term,
22 and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with
23 this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may
24 grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in
25 order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of
26 probation shall apply.

27 7. **Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements.** Respondent
28 shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment,

1 paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all
2 performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request
3 of the Board.

4 Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate
5 supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

6 In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within
7 seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment.

8 Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is
9 terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related
10 employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or
11 separation.

12 8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board
13 regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or
14 continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient
15 care.

16 Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse
17 in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative
18 methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician)
19 are approved.

20 Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not
21 limited to the following:

22 (a) Maximum - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is
23 present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.

24 (b) Moderate - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in
25 the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.

26 (c) Minimum - The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has
27 person-to-person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.

28 (d) Home Health Care - If Respondent is approved to work in the home health

1 care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-
2 person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent
3 shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing
4 supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual
5 providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-
6 site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.

7 **9. Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's
8 registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency,
9 a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

10 Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse
11 unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been
12 approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation
13 where home visits are required.

14 Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered
15 nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational
16 nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

17 Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing
18 or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

19 Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined
20 worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

21 If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the
22 Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours
23 of work.

24 **10. Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent, at her own expense, shall
25 enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later
26 than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

27 Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the
28 course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of

1 completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to
2 Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

3 11. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with
4 its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the
5 amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00). Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs
6 in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three
7 months prior to the end of the probation term.

8 If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term,
9 and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with
10 this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may
11 grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in
12 order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of
13 probation will apply.

14 12. **Violation of Probation.** If Respondent violates the conditions of her
15 probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set
16 aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation) of Respondent's license.

17 If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has
18 been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to
19 prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the
20 probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or
21 petition has been acted upon by the Board.

22 13. **License Surrender.** During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases
23 practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of
24 probation, Respondent may surrender her License and Certificate to the Board. The Board
25 reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant
26 the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the
27 circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall
28 certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

1 Surrender of Respondent's License and Certificate shall be considered a
2 disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A
3 registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no
4 sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

5 (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any
6 reason other than a mental or physical illness; or

7 (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.

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ACCEPTANCE


I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Elaine Yama. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License, and Public Health Nurse Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board.

DATED: Nov. 2, 2007


SUSAN MARIE COYLE
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Susan Marie Coyle the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 11-2-07


ELAINE YAMA
Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board.

DATED: 11/2/07

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General
of the State of California

ARTHUR D. TAGGART
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

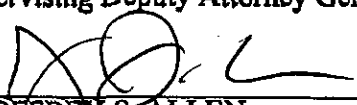

GEOFFREY S. ALLEN
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

Exhibit A
Accusation No. 2006-277

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General
of the State of California
2 GEOFFREY S. ALLEN, State Bar No. 193338
Deputy Attorney General
3 California Department of Justice
1300 I Street, Suite 125
4 P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
5 Telephone: (916) 324-5341
Facsimile: (916) 327-8643
6
Attorneys for Complainant
7

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. *2006-277*

12 **SUSAN MARIE COYLE**
13 4747 N. Cedar, Apt. 103
Fresno, California 93627

A C C U S A T I O N

14 Registered Nurse License No. 288929
Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 27227

15 Respondent.
16

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18 Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. ("Complainant") alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Complainant brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the
21 Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs.

22 **Registered Nurse License**

23 2. On or about March 31, 1978, the Board of Registered Nursing issued
24 Registered Nurse License Number 288929 to Susan Marie Coyle ("Respondent"). The registered
25 nurse license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and
26 will expire on July 31, 2007, unless renewed.

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1 **Public Health Nurse Certificate**

2 3. On or about October 10, 1978, the Board of Registered Nursing issued
3 Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 27227 to Respondent. The public health nurse
4 certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will
5 expire on July 31, 2007, unless renewed.

6 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

7 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in
8 pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a
9 temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with Code
10 section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

11 5. Code section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a
12 license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding
13 against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Code
14 section 2811, subdivision (b), the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight
15 years after the expiration.

16 6. Code section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

17 The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse
18 or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

19 (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the
20 following:

21 (1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or
22 licensed nursing functions.

23 7. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1442 states:

24 As used in Section 2761 of the code, "gross negligence" includes an
25 extreme departure from the standard of care which, under similar circumstances,
26 would have ordinarily been exercised by a competent registered nurse. Such an
27 extreme departure means the repeated failure to provide nursing care as required
28 or failure to provide care or to exercise ordinary precaution in a single situation
which the nurse knew, or should have known, could have jeopardized the client's
health or life

 8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443 states:

 As used in Section 2761 of the code, "incompetence" means the lack of
possession of or the failure to exercise that degree of learning, skill, care and

1 experience ordinarily possessed and exercised by a competent registered nurse as
2 described in Section 1443.5.

3 9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1443.5 states:

4 A registered nurse shall be considered to be competent when he/she
5 consistently demonstrates the ability to transfer scientific knowledge from social,
6 biological and physical sciences in applying the nursing process, as follows:

7 (1) Formulates a nursing diagnosis through observation of the client's
8 physical condition and behavior, and through interpretation of information
9 obtained from the client and others, including the health team.

10 (2) Formulates a care plan, in collaboration with the client, which ensures
11 that direct and indirect nursing care services provide for the client's safety,
12 comfort, hygiene, and protection, and for disease prevention and restorative
13 measures.

14 (3) Performs skills essential to the kind of nursing action to be taken,
15 explains the health treatment to the client and family and teaches the client and
16 family how to care for the client's health needs.

17 (4) Delegates tasks to subordinates based on the legal scopes of practice
18 of the subordinates and on the preparation and capability needed in the tasks to be
19 delegated, and effectively supervises nursing care being given by subordinates.

20 (5) Evaluates the effectiveness of the care plan through observation of the
21 client's physical condition and behavior, signs and symptoms of illness, and
22 reactions to treatment and through communication with the client and health team
23 members, and modifies the plan as needed.

24 (6) Acts as the client's advocate, as circumstances require, by initiating
25 action to improve health care or to change decisions or activities which are against
26 the interests or wishes of the client, and by giving the client the opportunity to
27 make informed decisions about health care before it is provided.

28 10. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request
the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or
violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation
and enforcement of the case.

23 FACTS

24 11. C.P. was a 62 year old man with persistent urinary incontinence. He had
25 difficulty with mobility due to neuropathy^{1/}.

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28 1. Neuropathy is an umbrella term for damage to, or a disorder of, the nervous system.

1 12. On or about October 24, 2001, he underwent placement of a supra-pubic
2 catheter^{2/} to assist with his urinary incontinence. On October 25, 2001, Community Home Health
3 Agency (CHHA) assessed C.P. for home care services. The assessment noted C.P.'s needs to be,
4 but not limited to, urinary incontinence, weakness, hygiene, safety, and mobility. Orders were
5 made for staff to assess C.P.'s systems, assist with his mobility and cleanliness, care for his
6 catheter and monitor any signs and symptoms of infection.

7 13. C.P. was repeatedly seen by CHHA staff, such as social workers, physical
8 therapists, and others, including Respondent. Throughout the period he was cared for by CHHA
9 staff, C.P. had ongoing difficulties with mobility, personal hygiene, safety and housekeeping,
10 laundry, shopping, perineal care, bathing, skin care and generalized weakness. When visited by
11 CHHA staff, C.P. was found on multiple occasions to be urine soaked. He also was frequently
12 found to be in need of bathing. It was also repeatedly noted upon visits that C.P. had extreme
13 difficulty with mobility and was essentially wheel chair bound. His house was repeatedly found
14 to be cluttered, dirty and unkept.

15 14. Respondent visited C.P. on December 13, 2001; January 3, 2002; January
16 4, 2002, and February 7, 2002.

17 a. On December 13, 2001, Respondent noted that C.P.'s catheter was not
18 leaking. She also noted that C.P. had difficulty ambulating. The home was described as filthy.

19 b. On the following two visits, Respondent noted that C.P.'s catheter was not
20 leaking. She also noted that C.P. had leg weakness and was only ambulatory with a walker. The
21 home was described as filthy with roaches present.

22 c. On her final visit, Respondent again noted that C.P.'s catheter was not
23 leaking. She also noted that C.P. was wheelchair bound with generalized weakness requiring a
24 taxing effort to perform transfers. She again described the home as filthy with roaches present.
25 She also cared for a small skin wound on C.P.'s lower left extremity that had been first noted by
26 _____

27 2. A supra-public catheter is a surgically inserted tube directly through the abdominal wall
28 into the bladder to drain urine.

1 another CHHA staff member on January 14, 2002.

2 15. On February 12, 2002, at approximately 2:15 p.m. a police officer was
3 dispatched to C.P.'s home for a welfare check. C.P. was found lying on the floor. He could not
4 move his legs and had little strength. There was a foul odor throughout the residence. C.P. was
5 transported to Selma Community Hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital, the physical assessment
6 revealed massive deep decubiti^{3/} to his sacrum^{4/} and ischium^{5/}; he had other less serious wounds
7 on other areas of his body. Due to the severity of C.P.'s needs, he was transferred to Fresno
8 Community Hospital for the specialized care of a urologist, and possibly a plastic surgeon and
9 intensive care. His diagnosis upon admission was hypotension, rule out sepsis, marked anemia,
10 and multiple decubitus ulcers, possibly infected. Wound photographs dated February 13, 2002,
11 document wounds on C.P.'s right foot, penis, right groin, left ischium measuring 10 cm x 9 cm x
12 2 cm with an undermining of up to 2 cm, and sacral area measuring 13 cm x 11 cm x 1 cm with
13 an undermining of up to 2 cm. C.P. remained at Fresno Community Hospital receiving care for
14 his wounds until February 26, 2002, when he died.

15 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

16 (Incompetence)

17 16. Respondent has subjected her licenses to discipline under Code section
18 2761, subdivision (a)(1), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, beginning on or about
19 October 23, 2001, and continuing through February 12, 2002, Respondent was employed by
20 Community Home Health Agency as a registered nurse. While on duty as a registered nurse and
21 providing home health care for C.P., Respondent committed acts constituting incompetence
22 within the meaning of California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 1443 and 1443.5, as
23 follows:

24 _____
25 3. Decubiti are areas of local tissue trauma usually developing where soft tissues are
26 compressed between bony prominences and any external surface for prolonged time periods.
They are also know as pressure ulcers and commonly referred to as bedsores.

27 4. The base of the spine.

28 5. The lower and back part of the hip.

1 a. Respondent failed to observe C.P.'s physical condition and behavior, and
2 interpret information obtained from him and others, including the health care team, regarding his
3 nutrition.

4 b. Respondent failed to formulate a care plan to ensure proper nursing care
5 services to provide for C.P.'s nutrition.

6 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Gross Negligence)**

8 17. Respondent has subjected her licenses to discipline under Code 2761,
9 subdivision (a)(1) for unprofessional conduct, in that beginning on or about October 23, 2001,
10 and continuing through February 12, 2002, while employed by Community Home Health
11 Agency, Fresno, California, as a registered nurse, and providing home health care to C.P.,
12 Respondent committed acts constituting gross negligence within the meaning of California Code
13 of Regulations, title 16, section 1442, as follows:

14 A. IMMOBILITY AND LIMITED ACTIVITY

15 i. Respondent failed to properly formulate or participate in the formation of a
16 proper care plan regarding C.P.'s immobility and limited activity.

17 ii. Respondent failed to properly evaluate the effectiveness of the care plan
18 regarding C.P.'s immobility and limited activity.

19 iii. Respondent failed to act as C.P.'s advocate regarding his immobility and
20 limited activity.

21 B. SKIN INSPECTION, MOISTURE AND CLEANING

22 i. Respondent failed to properly assess C.P.'s skin through visual inspection.

23 ii. Respondent failed to properly evaluate the effectiveness of the care plan
24 regarding C.P.'s skin.

25 iii. Respondent failed to properly act as C.P.'s advocate regarding the his skin
26 care.

27 C. PRESSURE ULCERS

28 i. Respondent failed to properly assess C.P.'s pressure ulcers.

ii. Respondent failed to formulate a proper care plan regarding the C.P.'s pressure ulcers.

iii. Respondent failed to act as the C.P.'s advocate regarding the his pressure ulcers.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 288929, issued to Susan Marie Coyle;

2. Revoking or suspending Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 27227,
issued to Susan Marie Coyle.

3. Ordering Susan Marie Coyle to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Code section 125.3;

4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 8/25/06

Ruth Ann Terry
RUTH ANN TERRY, M.P.H., R.N.
Executive Officer
Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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